

REMARKS

The subject application is a continuation of Application No. 08/709,838. Original Claims 1-29, 50 and 53-59 have been canceled without prejudice. Remaining Claims 30-49, 51 and 52 are directed to the invention of Group IV, drawn to a method of detecting or identifying an agent that binds to CXCR3, a method of detecting or identifying an inhibitor of CXCR3 ligand binding, a method of detecting or identifying a promoter of CXCR3, and inhibitors or promoters of CXCR3, as defined in the Restriction Requirement which issued in parent Application No. 08/709,838 on July 14, 1997. New Claims 60 - 92 have been added, and are directed to the invention of Group IV.

Claim 30 has been amended to define the abbreviation "CXCR3" on its first use in the claims under examination. Claims 32, 38, 39, 41 and 42-44 have also been amended to correct certain informalities.

Claims 30, 34, 38, 42, 46 and 48 have been amended to more particularly point out the ligand binding activity of ligand binding or functional variants used in the claimed method. Support for these amendments can be found in the subject application at page 5, lines 15-20; at page 34, lines 8-11; and at page 39, lines 25-28, for example.

Support for new Claims 60-92 can be found in the subject application, for example, at page 19, lines 21-25; at page 19, line 35 through page 20, line 6; and at page 35, lines 20-24. New independent Claims 75 and 81 are based on original Claims 38 and 42, respectively.

Support for the recitation of the nucleic acid sequences in Claims 85-92 can be found throughout the Specification, and in particular, on page 18, line 32 through page 19, line 16.

New independent Claims 85, 87, 89 and 91 are based on Claims 30, 38, 46 and 48. Support for the recitation of high stringency conditions in Claims 85-92 can be found in the Specification (see e.g., pages 20-21; see also page 64, lines 3-18 for an example of high stringency conditions).

Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (781) 861-6240.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 7, 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Marcel Loetscher and Bernhard Moser

Continuation Application of:

Application No.: 08/709,838

Filed: September 10, 1996

For: IP-10/MIG RECEPTOR DESIGNATED CXCR3, NUCLEIC ACIDS, AND
METHODS OF USE THEREFOR

Date: 8.7.00

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REMARKS

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The above-captioned application is a continuation of co-pending Application Number 08/709,838, filed on September 10, 1996, to which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

The identifying information at page 1, lines 1-7 of the specification has been revised and page 1 has been numbered. The Sequence Listing is now presented as sheets 1/6 - 6/6 at the end of the Specification, and pages 82 - 93 of the specification have been renumbered as pages 76 - 87.

No new matter has been introduced by these changes.

Respectfully submitted,

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